

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 5

DATE: FEB 06 2008

SUBJECT: Inspection Report for Metal Recycling Systems, Blue
Island, IL

FROM: Lynne Roberts, Environmental Scientist
Air Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Section (IL/IN)

TO: Files

THRU: Brent Marable, Section Chief
Air Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Section (IL/IN)

INSPECTION DATE(S)

January 29, 2008

FACILITY ADDRESS

Metal Recycling Systems, Inc.
3000 139th St.
Blue Island, IL 60406

PARTICIPANTS

Metal Recycling Systems, Inc.
Scott Irvine, Vice President

United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA)
Lynne Roberts, Environmental Scientist
Sara Breneman, Environmental Scientist
Jamie Iatropulos, Environmental Engineer

BACKGROUND

The United States Environmental Protection Agency Region 5 (U.S. EPA) conducted an unannounced inspection at Metal Recycling Systems, Inc. (MRS) in Blue Island, Illinois on January 29, 2008. MRS is a metal scrap facility that has been in business for eight years. It has accepted ferrous scrap for the past

three years and non-ferrous scrap for the past six years. The facility operates five-and-a-half days a week and has 27 employees.

OBJECTIVES

The purpose of this inspection was to gather information relative to the determination of compliance with the Stratospheric Ozone regulations.

APPLICABLE RULES

The following regulations promulgated under the CAA may apply to MRS:

40 C.F.R. Part 82, Subpart F - Recycling and Emission Reduction

ARRIVAL

The U.S. EPA arrived at the MRS facility at approximately 9:45 a.m. on January 29, 2008, to conduct an unannounced air compliance inspection. We presented our credentials to the receptionist and explained our business. Shortly after, we were met by Scott Irvine, who escorted us to a conference room.

INSPECTION DETAILS

We asked Mr. Irvine to explain how MRS handles Freon-containing appliances. He said that they do not accept refrigerators or air conditioners with in-tact compressors. He explained that his customers cut the copper coils to the compressors out of the units before bringing the units to the facility. We asked Mr. Irvine who his customers were. He said that he does business with construction companies, but approximately 90 percent of his customers are scrap peddlers. He stated that MRS receives about 10 to 15 units a day. He also said that MRS does not accept automobiles. We asked if MRS owns any Freon recovery equipment, and Mr. Irvine said that they did not. We asked if MRS collects verification statements from its customers, in accordance with the CFC regulations, and he said at MRS does not collect verification statements. We then explained to Mr. Irvine that it is MRS' responsibility, being a final disposal facility for Freon-containing appliances, to either collect statements or own recovery equipment.

CLOSING CONFERENCE

Mr. Irvine stated that he wants to be in compliance with the CFC regulations. He asked for a copy of a verification statement, and we told him to contact us for a copy. We also explained that his customers should not cut the compressor lines prior to bringing the appliances to the facility, and that it would be in MRS' best interest to purchase Freon recovery equipment. We asked if MRS was a member of the Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries, Inc. (ISRI). He stated that it is a member. We explained that ISRI puts out helpful compliance guidance documents for scrapyards, as well. We also gave Mr. Irvine a copy of the Small Business Information Fact Sheet.

We left the facility at about 10:15 am.

official file copy w/attachment(s)

other bcc's: S. Breneman (AE-17J)
J. Iatropulos (AE-17J)

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